



LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

The Louisiana Board of Regents invites letters of interest and nominations for the Commissioner of Higher Education. This position offers great opportunities to an individual with a demonstrated record of success. The successful candidate will bring a keen intellect, enthusiasm, commitment, and dedicated leadership to an organization that promises to be a best-in-class public higher education presence in the country.

The Board of Regents is the coordinating body responsible for developing and implementing policies for the state's four systems of public higher education institutions: Louisiana State University System, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, Southern University System, and the University of Louisiana System. As such, the Board is charged with planning, coordination, and budgetary responsibility for public higher education in Louisiana.

The systems comprise 38 institutions and centers, including two land grant universities. The state's higher education budget for FY 2013-14 is \$2.6 billion. The Commissioner reports to a 16-member Board of Regents, each of whom is appointed by the Governor, except the elected student member. The Board is supported by an office staff of 54 and is located in Louisiana's capital city of Baton Rouge. The Greater Baton Rouge Area has about 820,000 residents.

The Regents seek a highly qualified individual to build efficiently and effectively upon a sound academic tradition. The Commissioner will be called upon to guide and support the systems' higher education needs for traditional, non-traditional, and online learners for a population across the state totaling approximately 217,000 full-time and part-time students.

EXPECTATIONS

As a manager of positive change, the Commissioner must communicate a clear vision with a clarion voice for higher education coordination, planning and policy. The selected candidate must be an entrepreneurial and fair administrator of the highest integrity. He or she will be politically astute and demonstrate collaborative skills with an ability to balance and promote the Board of Regents' oversight of interconnected missions in P-20 education, research, and public service. The Commissioner must bring leadership characteristics that include being open and receptive to others; organizationally savvy and aware; bold and creative; and responsive and flexible. The Commissioner will be committed to pursuing successfully the Louisiana Board of Regents' goals for higher education and to communicating the Board's plans and goals to stakeholders, including the four public postsecondary systems, the legislature and the governor. The Commissioner will both lead and support the four systems in their efforts to increase the State's educational attainment level and prepare the workforce and an educated citizenry for the State of Louisiana. The Commissioner will join with the Board of Regents to be an advocate for the systems and the entire higher education community.

ATTRIBUTES AND CHARACTERISTICS

- Commitment to the Board of Regents' vision, mission, goals, and policies;
- Record of success in finances, budgeting, and planning;
- Experience in leading public policy development in a complex political environment;
- Ability to promote academic excellence and academic research;
- Understanding of missions for both the four-year universities and the community colleges;

- A students-first administrator who can articulate the developing needs of underrepresented populations;
- Ability to respect and embrace the culture of the state;
- Excellent written and oral skills, along with a solid presence;
- An ability to inspire trust, respect, and open communication;
- Personal strength and sensitivity to manage differences of opinions constructively and creatively;
- Senior level administrative/academic experience in a higher education setting; and
- Earned doctorate/terminal degree from an accredited institution of higher education (preferred).

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Implement policies, rules, regulations, and directives of the Board of Regents;
- Bring recommendations for policies and initiatives to the Board of Regents;
- Develop on-going collaboration with state and postsecondary officials, policy-makers, and the public;
- Build coordination, cooperation, and synergy among the system presidents and with the Board staff;
- Guide, manage, and implement the Board's agenda for governance and policy, including management of meetings and initiatives;
- Act as the Board of Regents' chief agent for development of budgets, grants, strategic planning, and data collection;
- Communicate fully and in an appropriate, timely manner with the Board of Regents;
- Employ, supervise, support, and evaluate staff; and
- Perform other related duties as may be required by the Board of Regents.

NOMINATIONS AND LETTERS OF INTEREST

To assure the fullest consideration, responses should be received by August 8, 2014. Responses may include a letter of interest specifically addressing the background in relationship to qualifications described (not more than 3 pages); a current résumé; and the names of five professional references with each person's position, office or home address, e-mail address, and telephone numbers. The Commissioner of Higher Education will assume office on or about January 2, 2015.

The search is being assisted by James H. McCormick, senior consultant, AGB Search, jhm@agbsearch.com, 651-238-5188. Responses should be sent electronically (MS Word or PDF Format) to Dr. McCormick at louisiana@agbsearch.com. For more information about the Louisiana Board of Regents and Commissioner search, go to <http://regents.louisiana.gov> or to www.agbsearch.com.

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